## Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



February 26, 1925

F.S. W-1

#### FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

#### THE 1924 RUMANIAN WALNUT CROP

The fairly abundant 1924 crop of Rumanian walnuts was practically sold out by early January at prices substantially higher than those received for the short crop of 1923, according to Richard B. Haven, American Vice Consul at Constanza.

The improved economic conditions in Europe resulted in supplies being bought rapidly, particularly by Czechoslovakia and Poland. A few early American orders were cancelled as the result of non-delivery within the prescribed time. No further American orders appeared until the end of December, when stocks were scanty. The report afloat since August 1924 that the Rumanian crop was very large is thought to have prompted American buyers to withhold orders. It appears, however, that while the 1924 crop was larger than the short one of 1923, it was no better than average.

Expectations of an unusually large crop created the impression that prices would be lower than those of 1923. Opening quotations, however, were almost twice as high at about 9 to 16 lei per kilo (2 to 4 cents per pound) as at the beginning of the 1923 season. By early December, good quality table nuts were selling at 5 to 5.5 cents per pound at the center of production. Thus, the whole crop moved at figures above those received during the preceding season, with no carryover remaining.

F.S.

May 27, 1925

#### FOREIGH NELS ON NUTS

#### THE FRENCH WALNUT SITULTION

Although prices of walnuts have weakened considerably in French markets since February, particularly prices of shelled nuts, the market is still strong from the standpoint of available supplies, according to figures reported by Consul Hugh H. Watson at Lyon, France, in reporting on the Grenoble walnut industry in the Lyon Consular district. Stocks of Grenoble nuts were nearly exhausted in the middle of April with only about 1,000 sacks on hand. Of Layette halves there were about 500 cases. Of Chabertes practically nothing remained in the hands of growers, but speculators had some 10,000 or 12,000 cases, of which the Consul states, a large part will probably be put into cold storage.

Prices of Greneble nuts and the shelled Mayettes and Chabertes rose steadily from the beginning of the season through February, as a result of the relatively small crop, but have since weakened perceptibly. The price of Mayetter, however, has been relatively lower than the high prices received for the unshelled nuts, a fact which has been important in reducing the quantity available.

The Consul states that the consumption of walnuts in France this year has been small, because of the high prices realized when sold for export. England has proven, next to the United States, the best customer for Grenoble nuts. Considerable quantities are shipped to that country, green, in small sacks of 10 kilos and dried nut shipments amount to about 1,500 sacks. While few Mayette halves are shipped to England, Chabertes exports totaled about 2,000 cases. Switzerland, Belgium, and the Scandinavian countries have each bought several hundred sacks of nuts and small quantities of Mayette and Chabertes halves. Declared exports to the United States for the 1923 crop and the 1924 crop, by quarters, have been as follows:

#### 1923 Crop

** ***********************************	: N	uts :	: Halvos					
Quarters ending	: Quantity	: Value :	Quantity	: Value				
	: <u>Pounds</u>	: Dollars :	<u>Pounds</u>	: Dollars				
	1,078,606 1,270,071  166,650	: 140,193	2,539,540 546,842	231,527 612,998 199,238 59,984				
Year	2,515,327	285,174	4,215,146	: 1,103,747				
1924 Crop  December, 1924 : 4,140,950 : 597,388: 755,521 : 248,10  March, 1925 : 717,152 : 103,889: 2,203,595 : 751,90								
Six months	•	:		1,000,004				

CASTILL TREE SECTIONS AND ALL RECEIVED THE RESERVED TO THE RES

SHI WE WA

STOR AS INDICATED ASSESSED.

3 % 3

### This well with about the line and the

Little of the earlies of the media of the earlies o

Design of the second of the sec

						and the second field of the second of the se	** *
					and the second section of the second		
January 1974	 			. i	The talk of	and the second second	
	:				2011		
	5			_			
	:		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	.5		***	n.
	:	Charles and the	:60:42.0	÷	in the contract of the contra	11.00	
	:		:	:	7		
				, . ,		* * * 2 * * * * * 2 * * *	
	2		:	:			
erre, riter aragente a se que el games				-			

110 4 1

and grade and a transport of the second of t

August 21, 1925

F.S. W-3

#### FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

#### FRANCE WILL HAVE LARGE WALNUT CROP

Early August conditions pointed to a 1925 French walnut crop of above average size, according to a report by L. Memminger, American Consul at Bordeaux, received in the Department of Agriculture. This statement also applies to the total output of "Marbots", "Cornes" and "Charentes", the three varieties mostly exported to the United States in the shell, although opinions are divided as to the prospects for "Marbots", the production of which may be below average. Production of cracking varieties is expected to be considerably above normal.

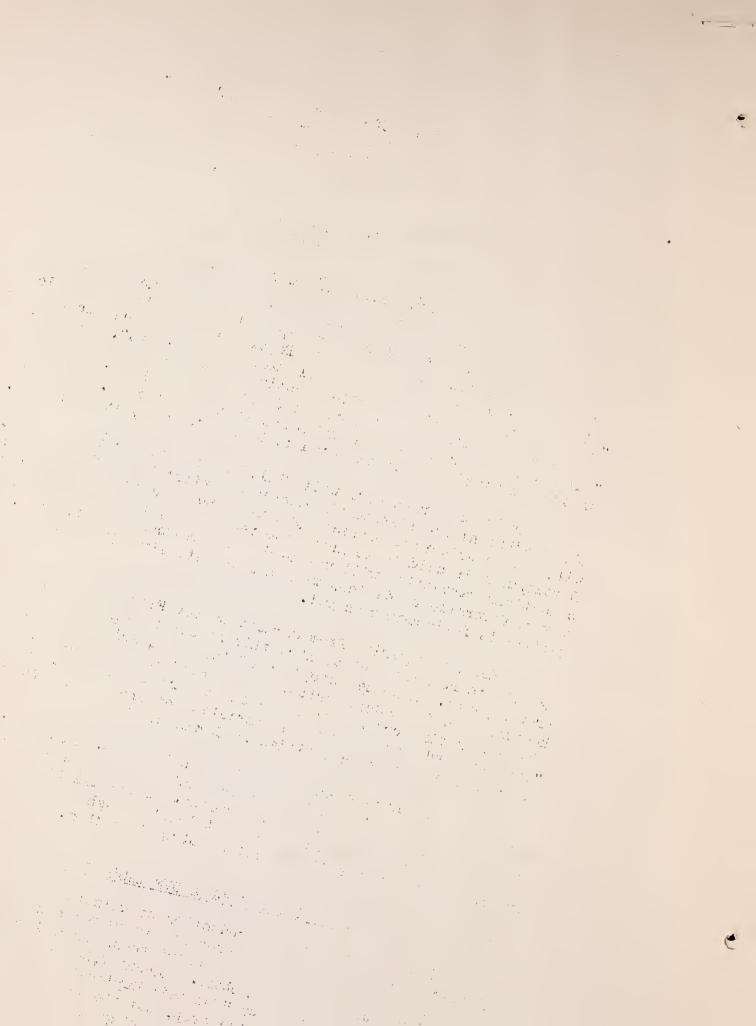
While the trees were well filled with nuts early in August, the conditions experienced all during the first half of the month, will have considerable effect upon the condition of the crop at harvest. Development is said to be about two weeks late, so that under average conditions harvesting will not begin much before early October, although favorable conditions will hasten maturity. No statement as to quality is forthcoming as yet.

Recent inquiries from Germany caused French exporters to expect orders from that country this season to equal the volume of prewar years. A sudden stoppage of these inquiries has occurred, however, and is being attributed to a shifting of German interest to the Bessarabian crop, much of which is normally shipped to Germany. "Marbots" and "Cornes" are the varieties of French nuts formerly purchased in largest quantities by German dealers.

The rules adopted on May 4, 1925 by the Dried Fruit Association of New York with regard to standards of shelled nuts have been the subject of much discussion in Bordeaux. While all firms are not willing to accept the new rules, at least enough of them favor the rules to prevent a united local stand against them.

#### ITALIAN WALNUT CROP, ABOVE LAST YEAR

The 1925 commercial production of walnuts in the Naples and Salerno districts of Italy will be approximately 10 per cent above that of last year, or in the neighborhood of 8,500 short tons, according to a report by Trade Commissioner John H. Hynes, Rome. About 7,200 tons will consist of "Sorrentos" and 1,300 tons will be "Mountain Naples." It is yet too early to be certain of the quality of the crop, but the fruit is reported to be well developed and gives promise of being of good size. Stocks of the old crop of "Sorrentos" were estimated at 100 tons early in August.



A small lot of nuts was sold for shipment to Australia in the middle of July on the basis of \$15.75 per sack of 100 pounds, equivalent to \$21.50 duty paid in New York. Growers, early in August, were asking very high prices for the new crop, but exporters were cautious pending developments in the United States. Mr. Hynes states that a large California crop has been reported in Italy, and that as a result, the epinion is generally held that American importers will set Italian prices at the first of the season. Later quotations are expected to depend on California opening prices and the movement of exchange rates.

The August 1 estimate of the condition of the California walnut crop issued by this Bureau was 94 per cent of normal, compared with 82 for August 1 a year ago and a ten-year average for August 1 of 85.5 per cent.

\_\_\_\_\_

F.S. W-4

October 15, 1925.

FOREIGN NEWS ON APPLES

#### RUMANIAN VALNUT CROP SHORT

The Rumanian valuate crop of 1925 is estimated at 60 per cent of the fairly abundant crop harvested in 1924, according to a report by R. B. Haven, American Consul at Constantza, Rumania, received in the Department of Agriculture. Owing to heavy rains in some sections of the country, with consequent early falling of the nuts, it appears impossible to generalize as to the quality of this year's harvest as a whole, but the quality of the Bessarabian crop will be very good.

Of the walnut producing regions, Bessarabia has enjoyed the most favorable weather conditions. Drought in that area caused considerable damage to grain crops, but contributed to the normal ripening of walnuts with a consequent high degree of quality. The setting of nuts was light, however, and in spite of the favorable conditions, the Bessarabian crop is placed at only 50 per cent of that of last year. Gathering was completed by the end of September.

The Moldavian crop is described as an average one of good quality, but 20 per cent short of the 1924 harvest. Transylvania was expected early in the season to have a larger crop than in 1924, but heavy rains threw down almost 40 per cent of the nuts when still green. The result is a crop estimated at scarcely 60 per cent of that of 1924. Gathering was expected to begin early in October.

A substantial demand has already been felt from French and American sources, in anticipation of the Christmas trade, according to Consul Haven. The Thanksgiving season demand in the United States is also said to be having its effect on the Constantza market. Prices for the current season opened at figures approximately 50 per cent higher than those of last year. In 1924 the opening prices stood at about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  or 4 cents per pound in the shell, increasing after one month by 50 per cent, and in January reaching the high point of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound. This year producers are asking around  $5\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound for Bessarabian nuts, and 5 cents for the Moldavian product. While no quotations are as yet available on nuts from Transylvania, it is expected that the price will be around  $4\frac{3}{2}$  or  $4\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Prices normally show some increase about a month after the season opens, and are expected to advance during the coming winter months.

\_\_\_\_\_



F.S. W-5

November 6, 1925

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

#### CHINESE WALNUT CROP REPORTED GOOD

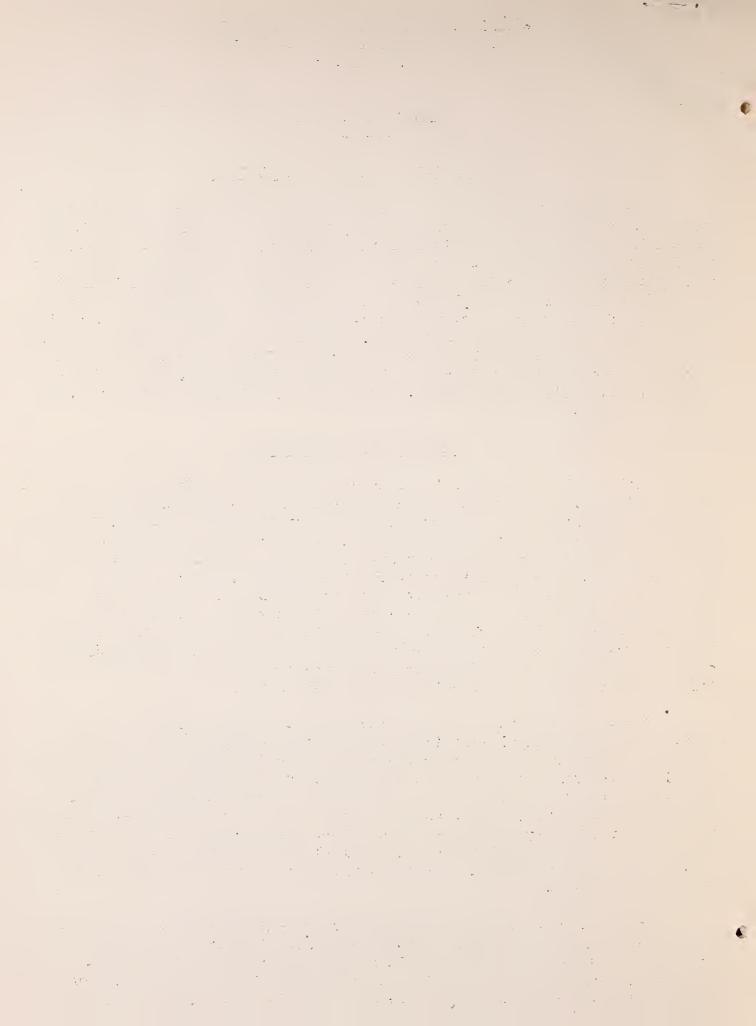
The Chinese walnut crop is believed to be larger and also of better quality than that of last year, according to a cable from Assistant Commercial Attache Evans at Peking, received in the Department of Agriculture, through the Department of Commerce. Mr. Evans reports that walnuts are arriving in fair quantities from producing districts. September arrivals in Tientsin amounted to approximately 2,930,000 pounds, compared with 800,000 pounds in September of last year. Declared exports of walnuts in the shell from Tientsin to the United States, during September, amounted to 200,000 pounds, compared with 1,000 pounds, during September last year. Native dealers were offering walnuts in the shell around October 20 on the basis of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cents gold per pound, c.i.f. Pacific Coast ports. Prices at that time were steady, and demand was good.

#### FRENCH WALNUT CROP LARGE

With the harvesting of the 1925 crop of walnuts under way in southwest France, all indications point to an exceptionally abundant crop of all varieties, according to an early October report from Consul Lucien Memminger, Bordeaux, received in the Department of Agriculture. Nuts on trees in more exposed positions on hillsides had not yet reached maturity, but valley grown nuts were falling from the trees at the time of the Consul's report. The crop as a whole, is about two weeks late, and there was apprehension that a large percentage of the crop of table varieties will not be available early enough to permit delivery in the United States in time for Thanksgiving. According to early October indications, a small percentage of walnuts, probably such as could be stove-dried, would be shipped around the 25th of October, but the bulk of the crop was not expected to be ready until later.

Excellent reports were being received as to the quality of the new crop. The two principal varieties grown in the Bordeaux region, namely, "Marbots" and "Cornes" were reported to be of good size and filled to full capacity with plump, well developed kernels. "Charentes" and cracking varieties were also said to be of good quality. The percentage of poorly developed nuts is very small, and the well laden trees give evidence of more than usual uniformity as regards production. It is said that the 1925 crop will be as large in quantity as that of 1921, and it is expected that the quality will be equal to that of 1920, which was a very good year from a quality standpoint.

French walnut shippers, according to Consul Memminger, do not anticipate maximum prices for their product this year, in view of the large crop in France, and the possible delay in shipment of the table varieties. Recent reports of large Rumanian and Italian crops have also tended to effect the price outlook. French dealers, however, are said to be pleased with the



prospect of having a large crop of good quality, which will emable them to take their pick in supplying customers! wants. If shipments of table varieties should be too late for the American Thanksgiving trade, it is anticipated that unusually large quantities of nuts will have to be diverted for cracking, although some merchants express the opinion that shipments to the United States will be about normal, in view of the probable good quality and low prices for the French crop. Earlier reports, to the effect that Germany had contracted for about 80,000 bags of 50 kilos each of the 1925 walnut crop in this region, are now proved to be without foundation. Purchases are now estimated at about 40,000 bags. This amount, however, is considerably more than has been shipped to Germany in recent years, Mid-October reports from Consul Davis, Paris, indicate some renewal of inquiry by German and other European buyers for both 1924 and 1925 crops.

Both Consul Memminger and Consul Davis indicate that a share of the French crop is likely to be stored. The former states "it is hoped that the peasants will be able to arrange to increase their accommodations for the storage of the crop, which has heretofore been a problem in years of exceptional harvests". Damp weather during the harvesting and drying period will also increase the need for improved facilities. Consul Davis reports "the walnut dealers are waiting on American demands. The nuts are arriving on the market in large quantities, and will be held by dealers until the extent of the American demand is known". It is reported that there is still a good quantity of shelled walnuts, "Cerneaux", left from the crop of last year. Shelled walnuts declared at the Bordeaux Consulate for export to the United States in the month of September, 1925, amounted to 913,362 pounds, valued at \$241,308.

Average prices prevailing on October 2 for "Marbots" and "Cornes" of the 1925 crop, were equivalent to the following:

	Per 100 lbs.
"Marbots", f.o.b. Bordeaux	\$10.55
"Marbots", c.i.f. shipment New York	
1st half of November	11.08
"Cornes", f.o.b. Bordeaux	9,49
"Cornes", c.i.f. shipment New York	
lst half of November	10.02

The prices for the variety known as "Charentes" are from 20 to 40 cents per 100 pounds less. (Cable rate of exchange New York, October 2, 4.65 cents).

\_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_

.

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

November 23, 1925

#### GOOD WEATHER HELPS FRENCH WALNUT HARVEST

A report on the status of the walnut crop in the Bordeaux district, France, at the and of October, just received in the Department of Agriculture, from Consul Lucien Memminger, Bordeaux, confirms previous reports published by the Department, that the yield of "Marbots", "Cornes" and "Charentes" would be exceptionally heavy. The production of these varieties, says the Consul, will about equal the production in maximum years, and the quality is reported to be very good, although producers experienced some difficulty in finding adequate storage for the shelling varieties, because of the large size of the crop. The quality of these varieties is not believed to have been affected to any important extent.

Earlier apprehensions that a large percentage of the crop would not be available in time for delivery, in the United States for the Thanksgiving trade were removed by the exceptionally fine weather which prevailed throughout most of the harvesting period in October. The ideal weather facilitated drying so that the nuts were ready for shipment ten days to two weeks earlier then had been anticipated, the first shipment occurring about October 15.

October exports of walnuts in the shell from Bordeaux to the United States amounted, however, to only 1,189,082 pounds valued at \$112,996, a proportion of which consisted of carryover stock. Although a larger percentage of the crop than had been anticipated, was sufficiently dried to permit shipment, high prices being demanded by producers, together with the lateness of the crop, kept October exports at a relatively low level for the month. The October exports to the United States of shelled walnuts, from both the old and the new crop, amounted to 457,916 pounds valued at \$116,113. The Consul states that shipments to Germany are expected to be heavy this season because of a light crop in Rumania.

In spite of the plentifulness of the crop, growers were reported as asking considerably more for "Marbots" and "Cornes" at the end of October, than at that time last year, largely because of the instability of French exchange, and they were also showing some tendency to hold back stocks until the situation became clear. Prices quoted at producing centers late in October for walnuts in the shell were as follows: "Marbots" \$8.40 to \$8.60 and "Cornes" \$8.20 per 100 pounds. The additional cost for delivery at Bordeaux and preparation for shipment was estimated at about \$1.10 per 100 pounds. Quotations C. & F. New York, made by a Bordeaux firm during the last week of October, were as follows:

> Marbotsh - per 100 lbs., C. & F. New York - \$10.50 - per 100 lbs., C. & F. New York - \$ 9.50 (Exchange 4.20 cents)

> > ----- 0 -----

